



Littlefield Letters



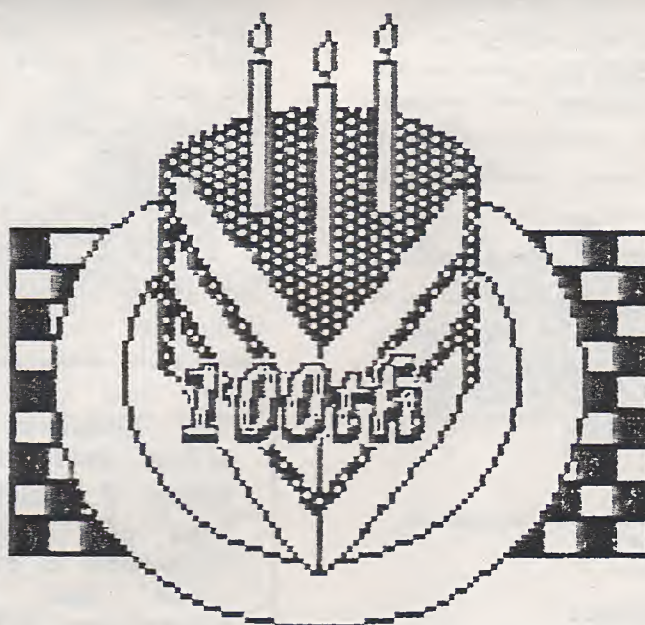
Vol. 87

MAY 1987

No. 5



Anniversary



Issue

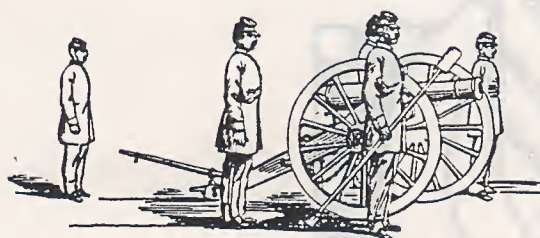
MAY MUSTER CALL

You are invited to bring yourself, family and prospective members to a celebration honoring the 100th issue of the LITTLEFIELD LETTERS during the May monthly meeting. There will be door prizes courtesy of the newsletter and a cake honoring the event will be served. Please make a special effort to share in this camp milestone with your fellow compatriots.

Bringing the program will be one of our camp sweethearts, Belle Cook. Belle is an honorary Tex.Div.Pres. of the UDC and a member of the A.S.Johnston Chapter #105. Her Confederate ancestor was Grandfather George Maley who served in Bernard Bee's Texas Militia CSA from Refugio County. The subject of her program is "Lee in Texas."

Also Lamar Cain has donated a 1903 Reunion Badge used by the Confederate Southern Memorial Association in New Orleans for us to use as a fund raiser. This would make a nice addition to someone's collection.

date: Thursday, 14 May 1987
time: 6:15 p.m. Mess Call
place: Wyatt's Cafeteria
Hancock Center



"I'M A GOOD OLD REBEL"

"I can't take up my musket
And fight 'em now no more;
But I ain't a-goin' to love 'em.
Now that is certain sure.
And I don't want no pardon
For what I was and am;
I won't be reconstructed,
And I don't give a damn."
Anon.

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Well, it's here! 100 consecutive issues! This is a real milestone for me. I could not have imagined this time would arrive when a new newsletter was begun to help a fledgling Camp #59 attract and hold the interest of men bound together by the Southern blood flowing in their veins.

Each month I've wondered how I would fill the pages of the LETTERS one more time. Somehow each month the articles are there. Of course, not everyone has been a gem. There are some issues I've been more proud of than others.

It has been a labor of love, and I have enjoyed every minute of writing, editing, typing, justifying the margins, publishing, and distributing each issue. Some have had to be done in a rush; others have been lingered over.

I have not edited and published this newsletter totally without assistance. My wife, Donna, and children, Christi and Todd, have from time to time helped with proof reading and the details of distribution - folding, labeling and mailing. Thank-you, family. And over the years one Compatriot has always offered invaluable aid each time I called upon him. Thank-you, David Morris. I appreciate you very much. And again thanks to the other Morris', Joe Dale and Jeffrey, for this beautiful design.

I hope that in eight more years I will be publishing the 200th issue!

The "Littlefield Letters" is the official publication of the Major George W. Littlefield Camp No 59, Sons of Confederate Veterans. Permission to reprint is granted; credit line is appreciated. Subscriptions available for \$5 per year from Gregory T. Hector, editor, 5914 Sunshine Drive, Austin, Texas 78757.

Let's Say... "WAR BETWEEN THE STATES"

(Reprint: Georgia Div. SCV; first published 1954, Fla. Div. UDC. Mrs. M.F. Wittichen; LITTLEFIELD LETTERS, March 1981.)

The Conflict (1861-1865) between the Northern States (The Union) and the Southern States which seceded from the Union to form the Confederate States has been given many names.

The official Union designation was "The War of the Rebellion." Other names have been "The War of Secession" and "The War for Southern Independence." In the South, the conflict is called "The War Between the States."

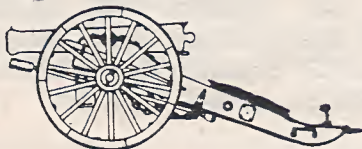
The Congress of the United States used the term "War Between the States" in two measures enacted into law; one measure became Public Law 834 in 1950 and a Resolution, H.580, was adopted by the House in 1944. The term "War Between the States" has been used in various reports on bills during the 70th, 71st, 72nd, 74th, 80th, and 81st Congresses.

The name "Civil War" has also been widely accepted, no doubt because it is short. Actually the term "Civil War" is misleading and inexact. The war was not a class struggle, but a sectional combat, having its roots in such complex political, economic, social and psychological elements that it is difficult for historians to agree on all its basic causes.

The fact that for four years the Confederacy maintained an entirely separate government (with its own currency, commerce, army and navy) established the Confederate States of America as a separate nation.

This nation, the Confederate States of America, levied and collected revenue, enlisted its armies and issued cotton bonds which were accepted in foreign commercial marts.

Its navy, though small, fought brilliantly, and introduced with the Virginia (Merrimac) a new type of warship, the ironclad.



The Confederate Flag, "The Stars and Bars," was recognized all over the world as belonging to a nation other than the USA.

The "War Between the States" does not imply a war between individual states. The noun, "States," is used in its collective sense. The official title of the contending parties during the conflict were the "United States" and the "Confederate States."

Therefore, since the war was between two groups of states, the United States and the Confederate States - two separate nations - the most exact name for that great conflict of the 1860's is "The War Between the States."



GWL'S CROSS OF HONOR APPLICATION

Quincy, Texas May 20th 1901

To the United Daughters of the Confederacy:

The undersigned, residing at Austin, Texas

who is an Ex-Confederate Soldier and a member of Camp No. 103

U. C. Ds., hereby, at your request, presents this Certificate of Eligibility for a Confederate Cross of Honor. He entered the service of the Confederate States on the 10th day of July 1864, as a Sergeant in Company D of the 8th Cavalry Regiment of (Jerry Rungen) Texas Volunteers.

C. S. A., and was at that time a resident of

Gonzales Texas

He was honorably discharged from said service by Resignation

of office on the 15th day of September 1864, at which time he held the rank of

Captain

Respectfully

Will L. Smith

We endorse the above certificate.

John H. Hargis
W. B. Hargis

Members Camp No. 103 United Confederate Veterans.

Approved by order of

Fred L. L. L.

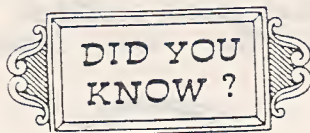
Commander Camp No. 103 United Confederate Veterans.

S. F. Wright

Adjutant.

COMMISSION TO THE SCV

"To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we submit the vindication of the Cause for which we fought; to your strength will be given the defense of the Confederate soldier's good name, the guardianship of his history, the emulation of his virtues, the perpetuation of those principles he loved and which made him glorious and which you also cherish. Remember it is your duty to see that the true history of the South is presented to future generations." Stephen D. Lee



LEE ON DUTY

(Reprint REBEL YELL, Okla. City, Chas. Smith, ed.; LITTLEFIELD LETTERS, Aug. 1983)

Many people are familiar with a quotation from Robert E. Lee, but not with the source, a letter written 5 April 1853 to his son, Custis.

"Nearly a hundred years ago was a day of remarkable gloom and darkness ... a day when the light of the sun was slowly extinguished, as if by an eclipse. The legislature of Connecticut was in session and as its members saw the unexpected and unaccountable darkness coming on, they shared in the general awe and terror. It was supposed by many that the last day--the day of judgment--had come. Someone, in the consternation of the hour, moved an adjournment. Then arose an old Puritan legislator... and said that if the last day had come, he desired to be found at his place doing his duty, he therefore moved that candles be brought in so that the house could proceed with its duty. There was quietness of heavenly wisdom and inflexible willingness to obey present duty.

DUTY, then, IS THE SUBLIMEST WORD IN OUR LANGUAGE. DO YOUR DUTY IN ALL THINGS, like that old Puritan. YOU CAN NOT DO MORE, YOU SHOULD NEVER WISH TO DO LESS."

UNTOLD FACTS

(LITTLEFIELD LETTERS, Oct., 1984)

History records no more brilliant fight ever made in defense of home and country and constitutional rights than that of the "men who wore the grey." Ill-fed, ill-clothed, unsheltered, and often unshod, and with greatly inferior weapons, except for those captured from time to time from the enemy, yet for four tremendous years they bore the cause of the South on the points of their shining bayonets. They won victory after victory, and held at bay a powerful and determined foe--ably led.

Yes, they were never out-fought but always out-numbered; never out-generalled but simply crushed by superior and ever increasing force.



NOT SURRENDERED AT APPOMATTOX

(Edward Carmack, 1903)

Let me say to you, my fellow countrymen, there were some things that were not surrendered at Appomattox. We did not surrender our rights in history nor was it one of the conditions of the surrender that unfriendly hands should write the epitaphs of the Confederate dead.

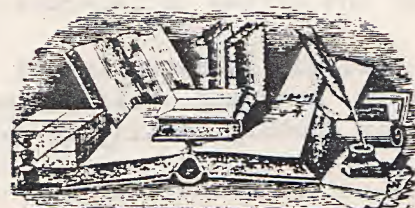
We need not confess that our fathers were traitors. We need not prove our fidelity by defaming the dead and cursing the blood in our own veins. History has placed the statesmen, military chieftains, and the armies of the South beyond the reach of hatred and detraction.

A WBTS LIBRARY

We are indebted to Jerry Russell CWRT (Little Rock) for calling our attention to a list of the 100 Best Books of the Civil War (sic) which he had reprinted from the CWRT of Colorado. See how many of these you have or want to add to your wish list.

Hardtack and Coffee	Billings
The Civil War Dictionary	Boatner
A Compendium of the War of the Rebellion	Dyer
The Civil War at Sea	Jones
Lee's Colonels	Krick
The Civil War Day By Day	Long
Rebellion Record	Moore
The Image of War (6vols.)	Nat'l. Hist. Society
The Official Records (128 vols.)	U.S. Gov't.
Generals in Blue	Warner
Generals in Gray	Warner
The Life of Billy Yank	Wiley
The Life of Johnny Reb	Wiley
Gen. Sterling Price & the Civil War in the West	Castel
Grant Moves South	Catton
Grant Takes Command	Catton
U.S. Grant & the American Military Tradition	Catton
Sonewall Jackson	Chambers
The Marble Man	Connelly
JEB Stuart: The Last Cavalier	Davis
Breckinridge: Statesman, Soldier, Symbol	Davis
Lincoln Reconsidered	Donald
Lee's Lieutenants (3 vols.)	Freeman
Robert E. Lee (4 vols.)	Freeman
Geo. B. McClellan: Shield of the Union	Hassler
Stonewall Jackson	Henderson
"First With the Most"	
Forrest	Selph
Lincoln & the War Governors	Hassentine
Ranger Mosby	Jones
Captain Sam Grant	Lewis
Sherman: Fighting Prophet	Lewis
Sherman: Soldier, Realist, American	Liddell-Hart
Make Me a Map of the Valley	McDonald
With Malice Toward None	Oates
Lincoln the President	Randall
Albert Sidney Johnston	Roland
Lincoln: The War Years	Sandburg

JEB Stuart	Thomason
Mighty Stonewall	Vandiver
Lincoln Finds a General	Williams
Lincoln & His Generals	Williams
P.G.T. Beauregard: Napoleon in Gray	Williams
That Devil Forrest	Wyeth
The Army of the Potomac Trilogy (3 vols.)	Catton
Army of the Heartland	Connelly
Autumn of Glory	Connelly
The Sable Arm: Negro Troops in the Union Army	Cornish
A History of Morgan's Cavalry	Duke
The Army of Tennessee	Horn
The Iron Brigade	Nolen
The Twentieth Maine	Pullen
The Stonewall Brigade	Robertson
History of the Army of the Cumberland	Van Horne
The Long Arm of Lee	Wise
Memoirs of a Confederate	Alexander
Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln	Basley
Washington in Lincoln's Time	Brooks
Four Brothers in Blue	Carter
The Passing of the Armies	Chamberlain
Terrible Swift Sword	Catton
Never Call Retreat	Catton
The Coming Fury	Catton
This Hallowed Ground	Catton
Divided We Fought	Donald, et. al.
The Civil War: A Narrative (3 vols.)	Foote
The War for the Union (8 vols.)	Wavins
The Civil War & Reconstruction	Randall & Donald
Battles & Leaders of the Civil War	Yoseloff
The Rise & Fall of the Confederate Gov't.	Davis
History of the Southern Confederacy	Eaton
Inside the Confederate Government	Kean
The Confederate Nation	Thomas
The Confederacy as a Revolutionary Experience	Thomas
Their Tattered Flags	Vandiver
John Brown's Body	Benet





THE 100th ISSUE

This issue of the LITTLEFIELD LETTERS marks the 100th consecutive monthly issue. The very first issue of this newsletter was in February 1979 while your editor was camp commander. These issues have been published monthly since that date.

New this issue is a new format for the LETTERS. This is only the second time a format change has occurred. Originally the LITTLEFIELD LETTERS were more like a monthly letter. The magazine format we have been using was designed by B. Stephen Taylor, who is no longer a camp member, in February 1982. We wanted to mark this auspicious occasion with a brand new design. We hope it meets with your approval.

Many thanks are due JOE DALE and JEFFREY MORRIS for their labors in designing the layout for the new LITTLEFIELD LETTERS.

The banner has special meaning for Camp #59. The flying artillery is included because of the excellent yeoman duty that members of the Littlefield Battery do in advertising the SCV in the Austin area. The shield surrounded by the wreath (GWL) is the design George Littlefield used at his home on the University of Tex. campus. Last but not least, the SCV logo shows our dependence on and pride in the Sons of Confederate Veterans established in 1896 so that the progeny of the Confederate Veterans could continue to honor and cherish the memory of the Confederate States of America. The original Camp #59 was established in 1898; we understand under the assistance of George Littlefield who was a very active member of the United Confederate Veterans.

Your presence is requested at the celebration honoring this issue at our regular monthly meeting in May.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

We are very pleased to wish a very Happy Birthday! to our sister organization, the Albert Sidney Johnston Chapter No. 105, United Daughters of the Confederacy.

Their 90th celebration took place in the Confederate Museum on Sunday, May 3rd. A few members of the Camp had a hand in the program reliving events out of this great chapter's life.

Also, congratulations on hosting a very nice Confederate Memorial Day celebration at the State Cemetery. The Littlefield Battery was happy to be allowed to participate in the program.



Congratulations

Congratulations to BILLY JOHN KAISER and WILLIAM ELDON (BUCK) TINSLEY for being awarded the Cross of Military Service by the UDC at the Confederate Memorial Day Service. We too are proud of your service to our country.

The UDC and SCV/MOSB are all proud to honor those men with Confederate ancestors who served in the armed forces of our nation during the periods of armed conflict. Information on these awards are available from your Adjutant.

CAMP HISTORY

Camp #59 was formed originally in 1898, just two years after the beginning of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. Some years later the Camp lapsed into inactivity. Other attempts at forming SCV camps in Austin occurred at different intervals, but none of them achieved any permanent success. Then, in 1977, Kirk Lyons, then a UT student, met with various men interested in forming a new Austin camp. It was decided to recharter the earliest Austin camp (numbered 59) and name it for Austinite George Washington Littlefield. The first Commander was Kirk Lyons.

The Charter is dated 4 December 1977 and was presented in a special ceremony attended by various dignitaries in the Littlefield home on the UT Campus. Representing the Texas Division and presenting the Charter was Past Texas Division Commander Bruce Marshall. Our first meeting site was the Speaker's Committee Room in the Texas Capitol.

Kirk finished school and left Austin and the SCV again became dormant in Austin, but only temporarily. Not willing to die, the camp met to reorganize in November 1978. Greg Hector was chosen to serve as interim Commander for the remainder of 1978. In 1979 the incumbent officers were re-elected. Our meeting site was moved to Wyatt's Cafeteria in Hancock Center. Growth was slow but sustained.

In 1980 we were fortunate to elect Bruce Marshall as Commander. He had been Commander of the Johnston Camp #67, Houston, where he organized the first Confederate Ball. He had also served as Texas Div. Cdr. and as Cdr. of the Trans-Miss. Dep't. The two Confederate organizations had named him Artist of the Confederacy and National Artist CSA. Bruce served two terms. During this time we hosted our first Texas Division Convention; Greg Hector served as Convention Chairman. We participated in the Veteran's Day Parade which we had started doing in 1979 putting David Morris to work for us with the cannon he had then. Our meeting places in-

cluded El Chico and the Sirloin Stockade.

In 1982 David Morris was elected Commander. These were the formative years - years of growth pains for the camp. Membership increased approaching 50, but few were "active" in camp projects. However work progressed, improvements were made, and we kept struggling to establish a viable Austin camp. During this time we again hosted the Division Convention ('84); David was Chairman. We also began meeting at Wyatt's on Anderson Lane.

In 1986 Wes Schiwitz became Commander. Growth remained steady but also did the losses from non-payment of dues so that we were still unable to cross the 50-member number. The Battery became even more active and more members were uniformed. Enough people had become active so that the camp began to function through committees as it was designed to do.

In 1987 James Jordan was elected Commander to a camp seemingly fully matured and finally exceeding 50 members. Things continue to improve as we made the name of the Sons of Confederate Veterans known in the Austin area. We have also moved back to the Wyatt's in Hancock Center.

Throughout all this time we have continued to enjoy very good programs on the Southern Confederacy. One of the most important accomplishments has been the great rapport established with the UDC. These ladies have been among our greatest continuous supporters. One of these, Belle Cook, was singled out to receive the SCV Ladies Appreciation Medal.

We have had a total of 3 Real Sons as members. One, J.J. Brown has passed on to his reward. We are proud to have the other two continue as members: Thomas C. Ferguson (Burnet) and Joe L. Patterson (Smithville).

With the help and continued assistance of all members and the ladies, the future of Camp #59 looks very good!



FLAG PLEDGES AND SALUTES

UNITED STATES

"I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands. One Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

TEXAS

"Honor the Texas Flag - I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, One and Indivisible."

CONFEDERATE

"I salute the Confederate Flag with affection, reverence, and undying devotion to the Cause for which it stands."

Pledge to The South

The South is a land that has known sorrows; it is a land that has broken the ashen crust and moistened it with tears; a land scarred and riven by the plowshares of war and billowed with the graves of her dead; but a land of legend, a land of song, a land of hallowed and heroic memories.

To that land every drop of my blood, every fiber of my being, every pulsation of my heart is consecrated forever.

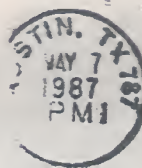
I was born of her womb; I was nurtured at her breast; and when my last hour shall come, I pray God that I may be pillowed upon her bosom and rocked to sleep within her tender and encircling arms.

Edward W. Carmack
1858 — 1909

- THE LITTLEFIELD LETTERS -

Official Publication of the
SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

Major George Washington Littlefield Camp No 59
5914 Sunshine Drive • Austin, Texas 78757
Gregory T. Hector, Editor



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